

he was working at ITE Gould. Bill worked his way up through the ranks, serving as a Shop Steward, Executive Member at large, and Bargaining Committee Member for the local.

In 1982, Bill was appointed to serve as a United Auto Workers International Representative. In this capacity, he serviced UAW Local Unions in New York and Pennsylvania as well as New Jersey. In 1989, he was chosen to serve as the New Jersey Area Director of UAW Region 9. He held this position until his retirement from the UAW in 1997.

His dedication to his union brothers and sisters did not go unnoticed, and he served as the elected Secretary Treasurer of the New Jersey State Industrial Union Council from 1989 until 1994. In 1994, he was elected to lead this group as its President.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Bill has always found time for public service. He has served as a member of the Board of Trustees for the College of New Jersey, a member of the New Jersey Commission for National Service, a member of the State Advisory Committee of Rutgers University School of Labor Management and Relations, and a member of the New Jersey State Employment and Training Commission.

As Bill retires as President of the Industrial Union Council, I know that he will continue to volunteer and help others. He will also be able to enjoy spending more time at his home in Westwood, NJ with his wife Darlene and daughter Marissa.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to working with and recognizing the efforts of dedicated community servants like Bill Kane.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, everyone involved in the New Jersey State Industrial Union Council, Bill's family and friends, and me in recognizing Bill Kane's outstanding service to his community.

IN HONOR OF CHARLIE ESKRIDGE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who has dedicated many years of his life in respectful service to our nation and its military veterans. Charlie Eskridge has spent the past 54 years serving this country as a member of the U.S. Army and as a distinguished representative within the American Legion.

Charlie enlisted into the Army in 1953 and during his 30 years of military service, he was 1st Sergeant of a medical company and also served as a Non-commissioned Officer in Charge for several medical clinics. He joined the American Legion in 1975 and has since held a wide array of positions, always advocating for the needs of his fellow veterans.

Charlie has served the American Legion at all levels and has been a delegate to six National Conventions. As the American Legion Department Commander for California, Charlie actively represented 104,000 members. He traveled throughout the state to personally listen to the concerns and suggestions of other veterans and Legionnaires, and worked diligently to ensure that their voices were rep-

resented. Charlie has always made the interests of veterans his personal responsibility, and has ensured that support was provided to everyone with whom he spoke.

Outside of his contributions to the American Legion, Charlie is also deeply involved in his community. He is currently the President of the Protestant Men of Chapel at Fort Ord, California and a member of the Monterey County Military and Veterans Affairs Advisory Commission. Charlie has served as both President and Vice President of the United Veterans Council and even served as the President of his local Parent-Teacher Association. As a result of his immense contributions, Charlie has received the admiration of his community and has been awarded the Military Chapel's Unsung Hero Award, the Scroll of Honor, and has twice been named "Veteran of the Year" by the United Veterans Council and the Sons of the American Legion.

Most importantly Charlie has had the love and support of his wife, and partner, Rosie, who has accompanied him on his many visits with veterans throughout the state of California. After almost 50 years of marriage Charlie and Rosie have two sons, Alvin and Charlie II, one daughter, Rosemary, and five grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the House of Representatives, I would like to extend our Nation's deepest gratitude for Charlie Eskridge's service to the United States of America and for his many accomplishments for our military veterans.

THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF UNITED METHODIST HOMES

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join the celebration of United Methodist Homes of New Jersey's 100 years of service to Garden State seniors. Starting in 1907 with a single home for the aged in Ocean Grove, New Jersey, today, United Methodist Homes is a network of ten homes serving more than 1400 seniors.

The flagship of this network, Bristol Glen, is nestled in Newton, in my District. It is a continuing care retirement community offering quality health care services, a wide variety of residential living conveniences, and a loving and friendly environment.

I recently visited Bristol Glen as part of my Mobile Constituent Service Hours program and had the opportunity to meet with residents and staff alike. I was struck by the extraordinary sense of community there. The emphasis is truly on well-being of the residents as a whole—catering equally to the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of all who live there.

As it enters its second century of public service throughout New Jersey, I commend United Methodist Homes of New Jersey for all it does to make the golden years truly golden for so many seniors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOSHUA THOMAS GALLO

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Joshua Thomas Gallo who has received the rank of Eagle Scout.

Joshua is a very studious and civically minded young man who has accomplished many goals. He has volunteered at food banks and donated blood as part of his civic commitment. Joshua has also recently been accepted to several different colleges to study medicine, thereby demonstrating his academic prowess.

Most recently, Joshua has earned the rank of Eagle Scout from troop 213. For the last 6 months Joshua has prepared himself for this momentous achievement by serving as a Life Scout and he has also earned 21 merit badges in fields such as: emergency preparedness, first aid, citizenship in community, citizenship in nation, citizenship in world, communications and environmental science.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Joshua Thomas Gallo for earning the distinguished rank of Eagle Scout. I honor his hard work and commitment in fulfilling the demanding requirements of this award. I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF DUNNELLON

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, May 10, 2007 marks the 85th anniversary celebration of the Woman's Club of Dunnellon. This outstanding charitable organization, located in Marion County in Florida's 5th congressional district, has spent the better part of the last century working on behalf of the good people of Dunnellon.

Volunteerism is an important part of many peoples lives, especially so throughout the 5th District of Florida. Many local organizations have worked very hard to make sure that the neediest amongst us have access to basic necessities like transportation to the doctor, hot meals, hospice care, day care, and providing support for our troops and their families.

The Woman's Club of Dunnellon has been at the forefront of these efforts for the past 85 years, continually finding ways to help give back to their friends and neighbors. From city beautification efforts, to educational seminars, to helping meet the needs of area residents during times of war, the woman's club has many achievements of which to be proud.

On the occasion of their 85th anniversary celebration, I would like to congratulate the women's club on their continued support and commitment to the residents of Dunnellon. Keep up the good work and know that you have my thanks for improving the lives of Marion County residents.